

Arlington Council on Aging

Meeting Minutes, December 14, 2017

Present: Jim Munsey, Rick Fentin, Ann Fitzgerald, Dick Phelps, Paul Raia, Jill Greenlee, and Marge Vanderhill. Associate member, Karen Nichols. Susan Carp, ED.
Absent: Mara Klein Collins and Noreen Murphy.

A. Call to order: The regular meeting of the Council on Aging Board was called to order by Jim Munsey at 6:02PM on December 14, 2017, at 27 Maple Street, Arlington, MA.

B. Citizen's open forum: Kya Roumimper, Intern from Merrimac College

C. Minutes of November 16, 2017, approved. Jill moved and Jim seconded after noting that the November minutes had the wrong date listed under the "Call to order."

D. Report of the Chair: no report

E. Executive Director's Report: November 2017-December 2017

1. Thanksgiving meal delivery was successful. There were over 90 volunteers (including family members) delivering 88 meals. The feedback from both volunteers and seniors was rewarding. The Stocking Program will be detailed in the January 2018 report.
2. We received official notification that Arlington has been formally accepted as the 194th Age Friendly community. Kya will head up the initiative. The first coalition meeting will be held in late January 2018.
3. Open Enrollment has ended for Medicare and supplemental health care policies. We do not have the final numbers, but the three SHINE counselors have worked tirelessly 3 days a week to meet the needs of Arlington seniors. So we say THANK YOU! The funding for this valuable program is always slated for budget cuts so let our MA legislators know how important the program is.
4. The new nurse, Urvi Agarwalla, will be starting on Tuesday, December 19, at 24 hours a week. She has had previous experience working at COAs.

F. Old Business:

1. Minuteman Senior Services, Marge reported on the December 6 meeting: Presentations were made on the status of the community programs: SHINE, Nutrition, and Ombudsman. Walden Rehab is being closed and placement for residents has been a challenge. Paul suggested MSS contact the Alzheimer's Association for placement of patients with dementia.

2. Status on the Friends: website is still up with an active “donate” button. Jill commented that there is no clear way to donate to the COA.
 3. Driveway: brickwork has been repaired.
 4. Building renovation: a new RFP will be put out to bid in January 2018. There is \$450,000 in the capital fund towards a resubmission by the architect.
 5. Age Friendly update: The coalition will work on a 3-5 year plan. It will be made up of a cross section of town depts. and focus groups across all ages and backgrounds. There will be a partnership with Vision 20/20 on surveys that will be sent out and available at town locations such as Robbins Library. Brainstorming ensued on the best means to publicize both the survey and the Age Friendly initiative. Ideas included: social media to target younger respondents, publish link to the survey in “The Advocate”, send out the survey to local parishes, have surveys available at all COA functions, etc.
- G. Other business: Ann asked if there was any chance of eliminating the Enterprise Fund and going onto the Town budget. Susan did not think it was possible at this time.
- H. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02pm. Jill moved and Jim seconded.